

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONFIGURATION,
MANAGEMENT, AND MONITORING OF A COMPUTER
NETWORK USING INHERITANCE**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A system and method using inheritance for the configuration, management,
and/or monitoring of computer applications and devices via a computer network are
disclosed. The method generally comprises calculating control settings to be enforced by
an end node corresponding to a device of the network of devices, the control settings
being calculated by the corresponding device. The control settings to be enforced by the
10 end node are applicable to the device and the resources of the device. The calculation is
performed by the end node or device by accessing data stored in a network directory
defining a hierarchical tree structure containing nodes corresponding to the network of
devices and defining control settings corresponding to and to be enforced upon the
resources available to the devices. The control settings corresponding to the resources of
15 each device are selectively inherited down the hierarchical tree structure of the network
directory.